GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:897
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
IMMIGRATION LOW BY GERMANY
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Germany has brought into force its new immigration law on the first day of new millennium;

(b) if so, the details of the changes brought in this law;

(c) the number of Indians likely to be eligible for German nationals after this law; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTEROF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)
(a) A new Citizenship Law came into force in Germany on 1 January 2000.
(b) The net Citizenship Law provides for citizenship by birth with certain conditions. The period of legal residence required for being eligible for naturalisation has been reduced from 15 years to 8 years. Additional criteria have been introduced which have to be fulfilled for naturalisation. The new law also has a provision for limited dual nationality.
(c) Nearly all the estimated 34,000 Indians, legally resident in Germany, are expected to be covered by the provisions of the new Citizenship Law.
(d) The new Citizenship Law is an internal matter of Germany.